The trees, wells or buildings in such lands were planted or constructed by the raiyats only, and not by Government. Raiyats who relinquished their lands were not compensated for their trees, or wells, or buildings so relinquished. Therefore, the rule that the value of such trees or buildings should be paid when the lands are applied for is a hard one. Further, Government loses the Land Revenue by rejecting such applications. Here, the rains often fail, the practice of throwing up lands when the prospects of the season are not good and again applying for them when there is a change for the better is largely resorted to by the raiyats. Therefore the rules which were hitherto in force of selling the lands at a competitive sale and knocking them down to the highest bidder may be renewed.

Dewan's reply.—The object of requiring an upset price to be fixed on lands put up to sale by auction is to prevent collusion among purchasers. The price should not be pitched unnecessarily high so as to be prohibitive to *bonâ fide* cultivators. The Deputy Commissioner has discretion to lower the price, if he finds it necessary in the interests of *bonâ fide* Darkhastdars. But a raiyat who has relinquished the land to avoid payment of kandayam intending however to take it up again, is scarcely a *bonâ fide* Darkhastdar entitled to much special consideration.

Subject No. 96.

Undue reservation of land fit for irrigation because stocked with date trees.

Summary of discussion.—Some new tanks have been constructed in this taluk. But wet lands under them are not given out on the ground that they contain date trees. By this the object of the Government in constructing such tanks is defeated. Therefore, lands which are capable of being cultivated with wet crops should be let out, irrespective of date trees standing on them.

Dewan's reply.—No reservation on account of date trees is required of lands fit for paddy cultivation. The Deputy Commissioner will be directed to inquire into the particular cases now alleged and do needful in the matter.

Subject No. 97.

Inconvenient proximity of Amrut Mahal Kavals to tank beds.

Summary of discussion.—In some villages, kavals of Amrut Mahal Department are close by, and in some cases form a portion of beds of tanks. Whenever the village cattle go into the kavals for grazing or drinking water, they are impounded by the people of that Department. Therefore some portions of such kavals and tank beds may be separated and handed over to the villagers for the use of their cattle.

Dewan's reply.—Representation should be made in individual cases of hardship and then the same will be examined by the Deputy Commissioner and any real hardship found to exist will be redressed.

Subject No. 98.

Abolition of fuel preserves.

Summary of discussion.—The abolition of seigniorage on fuel has been nominal in the Chitaldroog District, because it is still levied in Fuel Preserves recently formed. It is well known that Chitaldroog is a Maidan District, the raiyats

find it difficult to maintain their cattle; the rain-fall here is very scanty and means of irrigation deficient. Certain tracts have been reserved as Fuel Preserves and watchers employed for them. In some places the Fuel Preserves are close to the villages and the village cattle are not allowed to graze in them. Want of rain and fodder is much felt here. Therefore it is prayed that Fuel Preserves may be abolished.

Dewan's reply.—What was abolished was the practice of levying seigniorage on fuel brought into towns for sale without being covered by free or paid licenses authorizing the fuel to be cut in Government jungles. It is not possible to allow firewood to be cut indiscriminately on all Government land. The present orders are that Fuel Preserves should be demarcated after making due provision for the requirements of villagers for free cutting, grazing, &c., and fees are prescribed for cutting or grazing only within these preserves. The Deputy Commissioner will see that there is no excessive reservation, if representations are made to him in individual cases of inconvenience or hardship.

Subject No. 99.

Patel and Shanbhog Hakdars to officiate by turns.

Summary of discussion.—The offices of Patel and Shanbhog are hereditary. When there are several hakdars for such offices, one of them is appointed officiator to do duty and the others left unprovided for. Then on the officiator's death, the hak passes to his descendants. Thus the other hakdars get no chance of enjoying the office at all. Therefore arrangements should be made by which the hakdars may officiate by turns.

Dewan's reply.—Rules to this effect are under consideration and will be soon introduced. (See Subject No. 113 below).

Subject No. 100.

Urgent need for a Musafarkhana and Chattram at Holalkere.

Summary of discussion.—Railway trains arrive at the Holalkere Station at midnight. Passengers have no place to halt there and are thus put to much inconvenience. Therefore, a Musafarkhana and a Chattram should be constructed near the Railway Station and a well sunk there.

Dewan's reply.—These will be soon provided.

Subject No. 101.

English Teacher for each Kanarese school needed, chiefly at Talya.

Summary of discussion.—English knowing Masters should be appointed, one for each Kanarese school, to allow of English being taught to such as wish to pay for and learn it. There is a particular demand for this at the Talya Hobli school.

Dewan's reply.—A grant-in-aid may be given to the Talya Hobli school if applied for.

Subject No. 102

The Marikanave Project.

Summary of discussion.—The Marikanave project which has long been under consideration, should be started early for the benefit both of Government and of the raiyats in the Chitaldroog District, which is a region of frequent droughts and deficient water-supply.